




# ***ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE DIVISION***

- Operates within the environmental resource center
- Provides multimedia technical assistance and outreach to all customers of DEQ





# ***DEQ OMBUDSMAN***

- Serves as an advocate for the concerns of all DEQ customer
  - Facilitates pollution prevention information in a free, non regulatory and confidential manner
  - Confidential to the maximum extent allowed by law
- 

---

# ***DUTIES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE DIVISION***

- Provides assistance and information for regulated customers (municipalities, small and large businesses) to get answers to pollution prevention and regulatory questions. Aid in investigating and resolving of complaints and disputes on regulatory issues between customers and DEQ.
  - Provides on-site multimedia pollution prevention visits for any regulated customers requesting assistance. These visits are free, non-regulatory and confidential to the maximum extent allowed by law.
-


---

# ***ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE DIVISION OUTREACH***

- Mailouts
  - Speaking Engagements
  - Workshops and Seminars
  - Teleconferences
  - Radio and Television Interviews
  - Public Service Announcements
-



# ***POLLUTION PREVENTION PROGRAM***

- Fee Program
  - Toxics Release Inventory
  - Pollution Prevention Plans and Certifications
  - Solid Waste Recycling
- 




# ***Mississippi Small Business Technical Assistance Program***





# ***WHAT IS A SMALL BUSINESS ?***

- A business that is owned and operated by a person with fewer than 100 employees.
  - A small business concern as defined by the Small Business Act, 13 CFR Part 121
  - A small business that is not a major stationary source as defined in Title I and III of the Clean Air Act.
  - A small business that does not emit 50 tons or more per year of any regulated pollutant
- 

---


## ***DEFINITION OF SMALL BUSINESS (continued)***

- A small business that emits less than 75 tons per year of all regulated pollutants.
  - To be automatically eligible a small business must meet all the above criteria.
-





# ***MISSISSIPPI SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COMPONENTS***

- Small Business Ombudsman
  - Technical Assistance Program
  - Compliance Advisory Panel
- 

---

# ***SMALL BUSINESS OMBUDSMAN***

- An advocate for the concerns of small businesses as they relate to the Clean Air Act.
  - Established within the DEQ, Environmental Resource Center's Assistance Division.
  - Independent of the Office of Pollution Control as a free and non-regulatory service.
  - All communications are confidential to the maximum extent allowed by law.
-


---

# ***OMBUDSMAN DUTIES***

- Serve as the contact for Small Businesses to get answers to regulatory questions
  - Aid in the investigation and resolving complaints and disputes from Small Businesses against State air pollution control authorities
  - Dissemination of information
  - Review new State and EPA standards
-




# ***TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM***

- Environmental Self Audits
  - On Site Technical Assistance Audits
  - Technical advice on control technology
  - Assistance in completing applications
- 




# ***COMPLIANCE ADVISORY PANEL***

- Render advisory opinions concerning the effectiveness of the Program
  - Make periodic reports to EPA concerning the compliance of the program
  - Review information for Small Businesses
- 



## ***SMALL BUSINESS HOTLINE***

- Toll Free Assistance By Phone
  - 1-800-725-6112
  - Electronically Monitored During and After Business Hours
  - We Return All Calls Promptly
- 

---

---

# ***SMALL BUSINESS OMBUDSMAN OFFICE***

Jesse Thompson  
Ombudsman

Cathy L. Johnson  
Secretary

MISSTAP  
Technical Assistance Audits